Observation

15. Implementation of the Housing & Shelter Upgradation in towns with less than one lakh population.

Reaction of the Government

The Scheme is applicable in all urban settlements with population between one lakh and 20 lakhs with the exception of NE Hill States and Sikkim and simlar towns in the hill districts of other States (as defined by the Planning Commission) and newly industrialising townships. However, the Ministry considers the request from States on a case to case basis for permitting them the implementation of this component in cities with population below one lakh. Recenty this Ministry has given permission for taking up 22 towns in Andhra Pradesh and 7 towns in West Bengal.

Observation

16. State level Monitoring Units not set-up.

Reaction of the Government

The report mentions that State Level Monitoring Committees have been set-up only in 10 States. However, according to the information available in the Ministry, all States/UTs implementing NRY have since set up monitoring agencies.

Total Cultivated Land Area

*99. SHRI RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI :
SHRI NILOTPAL BASU :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) the total cultivated land area in the country during the last three years respectively ;

(b) what has been the corresponding area under cultivation of coarse foodgrain during these years; whether there has been any reduction in such area ; and

(c) if so, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI BALRAM JAKHAR) : (a) The total cultivated land area in the country during the last three years ending 1990-91 (latest available) is as follows :-

(Million hectare.)

Year	Cultivated land area
1988-89	155.9
1989-90	155.4
1990-91	156.0

(b) and (c) The cultivated area under coarse foodgrain crops during 1988-89, 1989-90 and 1990-91 was estimated as 38.68, 37.69 and 36.32 million hectares respectively. The cultivated area under coarse foodgrains has shown declining trend over the years. The main reason for decline in area under coarse foodgrains is the expansion of irrigated area with which farmers shifted their area to other high yielding and more remunerative crops.

Increase in the prices of Aluminium

*100. SHRI S. AUSTIN : Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state :

(a) whether London Metal Exchange (LME) price of aluminium has increased considerably since January, 1992 ;

(b) whether increased exports has created an acute shortage of steel in the country ; and